

Priscilla Arnold, MD FACS

American Society Of Cataract
& Refractive Surgery

Intraoperative Floppy Iris Syndrome

A newly described clinical entity

What is IFIS?

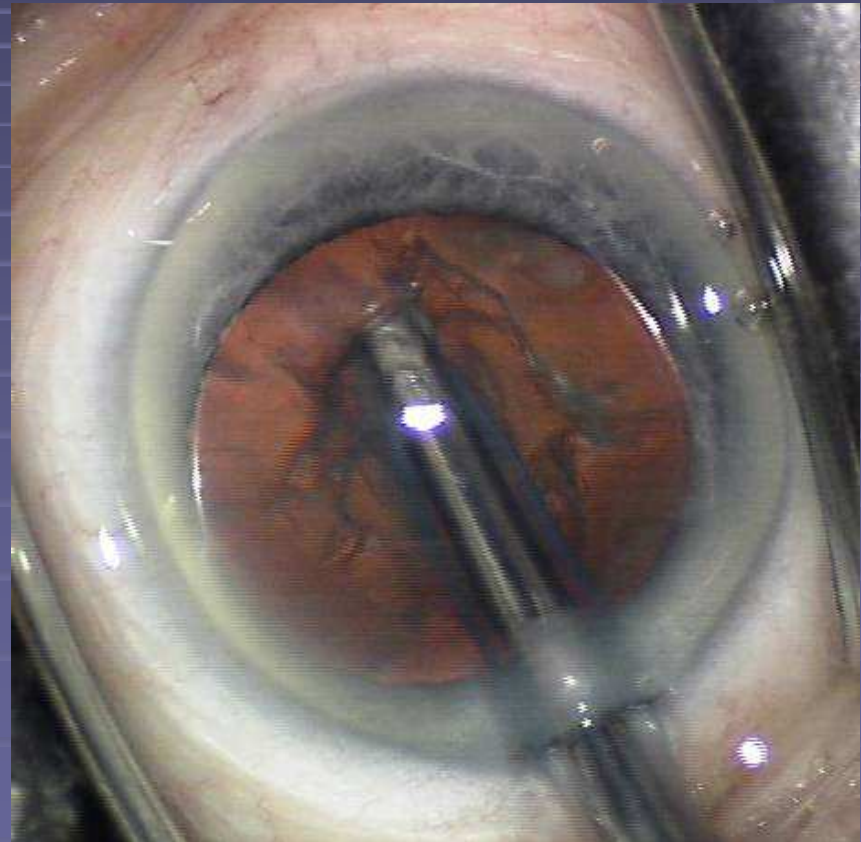
- This syndrome was identified in 2004, and published in April 2005 (JCRS) by Drs. David Chang and John Campbell
- IFIS is especially associated with tamsulosin (Flomax) - the most commonly used drug for BPH, but has been reported to occur with other similar drugs.

Pharmacologic neuropathy

- Alpha – 1 blockers are used for BPH (and to treat urinary retention in women)
- Tamsulosin is an Alpha – 1 A specific blocker—the identical receptor found in the dilator muscle of the iris
- Even short-term use can lead to nonreversible iris dilation dysfunction in some patients

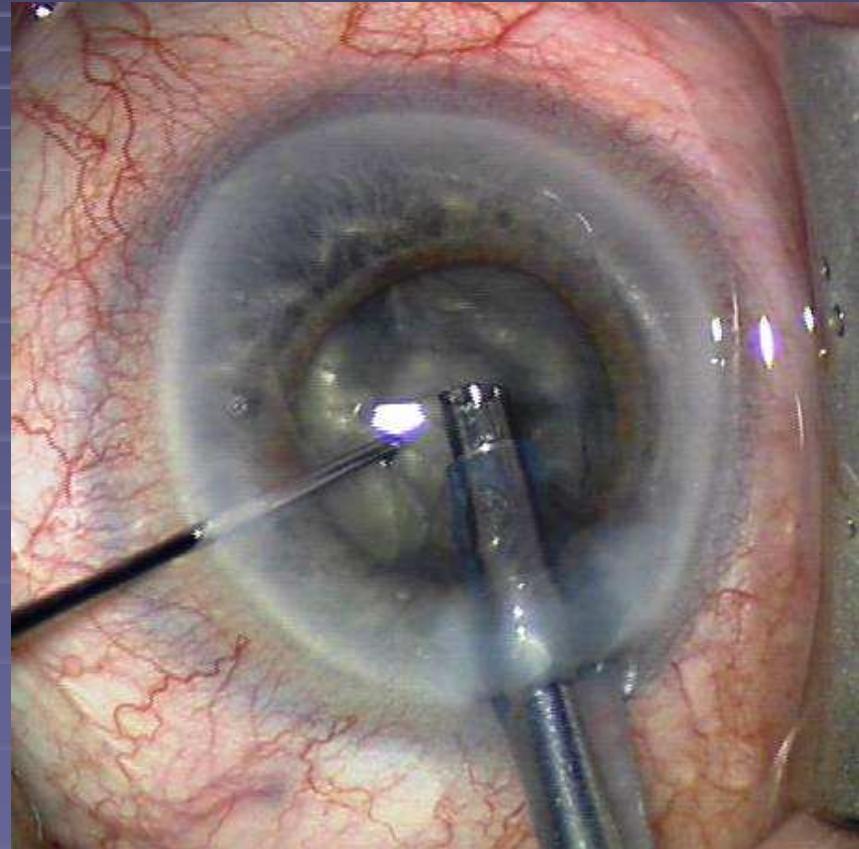
Normal iris features

- Pupil dilates widely preoperatively
- The iris maintains its integrity throughout the surgical case
- Manipulation does not cause loss of dilation



Distinctive IFIS features

- Pupil dilates poorly
- Surgery begins & pupil constricts more
- Flaccid iris billows around instruments & out of incision
- Increased difficulty of case & probability of complications



IFIS in action



Pupil expansion devices

- Several types of devices can maintain adequate exposure
- These add time and cost to the procedure
- They must be utilized at the beginning of the surgery



Surgical precautions

- Maximal pharmacologic dilation
- High-retention viscoelastic
- “Slow-motion” procedure
- Pupil expansion devices
- Most critical – surgeon’s prior knowledge of the condition, in order to prepare adequately for this complex situation

Responses to IFIS

- Identification of syndrome
- FDA warning label
- Joint statement with ASCRS & AUA
- Multicenter surgical study
- Patient education
- Presentation for code

Summary

- Newly described, specific entity
- Drug-related denervation with resultant abnormal iris function
- Significant increased risk of cataract surgery, especially if not known pre-operatively by the surgeon
- Special planning and devices can usually allow surgery to proceed successfully